

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

## THE MAGAZINES.

Among the attractive articles in this number, the "Poetry of Steeple" claims especial attention for its curious learning and legendary anecdotes on the subject of bells. "Cambridge on the Charles" is a chapter of history and gossip on that old university town, with personal sketches of distinguished residents, and ample pictorial illustrations, including portraits of Longfellow, Lowell, President Eliot, and several of the former presidents of the college, some of which are more suggestive to the imagination than the memory. Of Mr. Longfellow, the writer remarks: "As he draws near seventy, he is a fine picture of beautiful manhood, reflects him for his benignity, and remembers him, not only as a poet, but as a kind and gentle man." President Barnard completed the history of the progress of physical science in the "First Century of the Republic," treating of the labors of several American scientists who are still living. His account of the services of Professor John W. Draper, especially in connection with the spectrum, presents a just tribute to the character and achievements of that eminent philosopher both in the field of letters and of science. His investigations, it is stated, embrace at once the physical, chemical, and thermal properties of light, and the relations of this principle to the organic world and the physiology of vision. He was the first to apply the method of photography to the study of the Franklin line. The foundations of the science of spectroscopy were laid in his early researches. In 1858, three years before the announcement of the results obtained by Bunsen and Kirchoff, a memoir was published by Dr. Draper on the nature of flame and the condition of the sun's surface, which was the precursor of the investigations out of which has grown the new science of celestial chemistry. The references by President Barnard to the labors of Mr. L. M. Rutherford, Dr. Henry Draper, Professor Joseph Henry, Professor Wolcott Gibbs, Professor Young, Dr. Charles G. Page, Professor A. F. Mayer and others, are also of great interest, showing the highly important share of American physicists in the remarkable discoveries which are the glory of the age.

## SCRIBNER.

An interesting antiquarian paper, "New-York in the Revolution," gives a sketch of the old Knickerbocker town in the period of its low estate, when it had scarcely twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and was subject to the terrors and sufferings of a hostile possession. There was little space for Christians to live, while the hand of the foreign soldier was at the throat of the city. Families were divided, homes were in ruin, death was reaping a wide harvest. The city had been nearly laid in ashes by a destructive fire. Acres that had been swept over by the conflagration were turned into rude settlements by us who had the first had spared. In these hovels, half-hut, half-tent, dwelt a race of vagabonds who made their living by crime. Churches and sugar-houses were crowded with starving prisoners. Relocated soldiers swaggered through the streets, while their officers held high revel in the homes of fugitive colonists. One hundred years have passed away since those days, and while the natural face of the city is so changed that the men who were the buff and blue would not be able to recognize it, the patriotism and persistence and pluck of the inhabitants are the same as before. There are papers on "House-Building" by John Burroughs, and on "Beds and Tables" by Clarence Cook, which afford many useful suggestions to the New-York paterfamilias, as well as agreeable discussion to the general reader. The miscellaneous departments of the number are well filled as usual, and there is a large supply of poetry by some of the best hands, including E. C. Stedman, R. H. St. Dard, John Thaxter, Mrs. Piatt, H. H. Boyesen, and H. H.

## THE GALAXY.

The January number is made up to a great extent of the serial stories of Mr. McCarthy's "Dear Lady Disdain," which is now brought to a happy end, Miss Howell's "Reuben, Dale," and "Madcap Violet," by William Black. A paper by Charles W. Raymond presents a series of stringent criticisms on the existing method of conducting the national surveys, and strongly urges the placing of them under the direction of the Engineer Bureau of the War Department, which he vindicates against the recent strictures of Professor J. D. Whitney in the "North American Review." "Woman's Occupations," by Mr. Albert Rhodes, has some good suggestions on the extravagances of American society, by which families are suddenly brought to wealth by a failure of the crops or a commercial panic. The love of ostentation, he justly remarks, induces people to live beyond their means. Hotels are full of looking-glass and paint, while the food is not fit to eat. Restaurants abound in marble tables and marble floors, and crude refreshments. Splendors are often found in the dwellings of the rich to the neglect of the real comforts of home. A general spangle invests society. The gorgeous dwelling is a house of glass, with bad pictures, counterfeited precious stones, books for show and not for reading, and its wine cellar half poison. Mr. McCarthy contributes an instructive political article entitled "The English Intelligencer," and there is a translation from M. Taine's forthcoming "Ancient Regime," on "Kings, Church, Nobles, and Sinecures," in which modern radicalism is carried to the one hundredth degree.

## LIPPINCOTT.

This number opens with a centennial paper, describing the general progress of the century, as well in Europe as in America. Among other topics, the writer dwells on the great advance of the masses in physical well-being, which would seem from his account to have fulfilled the ideal of the French monarch, who wished that even the poorest of his subjects might always have a chicken in the pot for his Sunday dinner. Food, it is said, is everywhere better in quality and more regular in supply. The English record of the corn markets for six centuries shows a remarkable alteration in favor of steadiness in price. The uncertainties of the season are neutralized by the average struck by increased variety of products and multiplied sources of supply. A given population is more regularly and better fed than one-fifth of its number would have been a hundred years ago. A city of four millions would then have been an impossibility. Dress and lodging are better and relatively cheaper. As a result men have gained in weight and size and in length of life. A third paper entitled "Up the Thames," describes a journey by rail on the banks of that celebrated river, with numerous historical and personal recollections. "Famishing Portraits" presents a startling, and were it not sustained by good authority, an almost incredible, view of the present condition of that country. Mrs. Frances Kemble contributes a poem written in Venice in 1865.

## THE ECLECTIC.

A new volume commences with the present number of the "Eclectic," which never fails to hold its own as an ample and judicious repository of the best current literature. The selections for January comprise "Memoirs of Saint Simon," "Sherman and Johnston, and the Atlanta Campaign," "The History of Twins," "O'Conorians," and other valuable articles from the foreign periodicals. Although boasting of but a small portion of original matter in the successive numbers, this excellent Magazine commands its own the family circle by the richness of its literary selections, and the good taste and sound judgment of its editorial team.

## THE CATHOLIC WORLD.

A large space in this number is devoted to the discussion of various topics of ecclesiastical politics, including President Grant's "Speech at Des Moines," "The Protestant Episcopal Church Congress," "The Conference at Bonn," and others. The tender and sweet sounds of Aubrey de Vere are a refreshment amid a heavy mass of religious polemics, which, however, has also several intervals of attractive action and narrative.

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